

Dear Members of the Senate and House Redistricting Committees:

I write today on behalf of the members of the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG). As you review the Congressional map proposed on Saturday, October 23, 2021, the BACOG members urge you to evaluate whether the Congressional districts sufficiently facilitate interaction between each Congressman and their new constituents.

To be an effective representative, each Congressman must know the residents and communities throughout their district. Moreover, these Congressmen provide the most direct connection between Illinois residents and the federal government in Washington DC. As a result, the BACOG members urge you to consider whether: (1) each district is a size and shape that provides reasonable opportunities for residents to connect with their Congressional representative; and (2) each Congressman is able to reasonably understand the unique needs of all corners of their district.

If the Congressional map is adopted as proposed, each district must be provided sufficient funding to have multiple district offices. Absent this funding, the BACOG members are concerned that their constituents and many other Illinois residents may be left without reasonable access to Congressional services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Saunders